



Dallas College Adult Education & Literacy Reentry Program

Presenters:

Jesus Mercado

Jennifer McNabb, MLS



Dallas College Adult Education & Literacy Re-Entry Program

- Highlights of Dallas College Correctional Education Program
- Measuring Outcomes
- Best Practices
- Challenges & Adjustments During Covid 19



Program Objective

Prepare participants for re-entry by teaching skills and strategies for re-entering their communities, reconnecting with their families, and entering the workforce.



Dallas College Program Locations

- Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Seagoville
- Lew Sterrett Detention Facility (Dallas County Jail)
- Hutchins State Jail



Integrated Education & Training (IET)

- Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Automotive
- Logistics Courses
 - Certified Logistics Associate
 - Certified Logistics Technician
 - Logistics Distribution
- IET Support Class



High School Equivalency (HSE)

Learning Objectives

- Support HSE class designed for students with NRS level 5 or below to advance efficiently to the next level
- Provide the basic knowledge and skills to successfully pass the HSE exam



Transitions Courses

- Entrepreneurship
- Career Exploration
- EQ: Success In The Workplace
- Parenting & Financial Literacy



Entrepreneurship

Learning Objectives

- Understand the financial risks and benefits of starting a small business
- Grasp some of the ethical and legal issues involved in starting a small business
- Understand and develop the critical and creative thinking skills of an entrepreneur
- Develop leadership and communication skills
- Learn to write a business plan



Career Exploration

Learning Objectives

- Identify personal strengths and skills and determine how they can be applied to the job search and the workplace
- Write an appropriate resume and a cover letter
- Improve verbal and non-verbal communication, especially as it relates to the job interview
- Manage the emotions of rejection



EQ: Success in the Workplace

Learning Objectives

- Increase self-awareness, self-regulation, social awareness, and relationship management skills
- Acquire both written and verbal communication skills for successful workplace and personal relationships
- Apply the above to the development of a personal reentry plan



Parenting and Financial Literacy

Learning Objectives

- Gain more productive understandings of family relationships
- Improve communication skills to enhance family cohesion and mutual support
- Increase parenting skills with a focus on understanding child developmental stages and loving discipline strategies
- Acquire money management skills in the areas of budgeting, improved credit, homeownership, taxes, and retirement plans
- Develop a reentry plan that includes the above



Measuring Outcomes

Number of Students with Level 1 Certification

Number of Students registered for IET, Transitions, GED

Other measuring outcomes results pertaining to correctional education programs



Best Practices

Orientation of Instructors to:

- The correctional environment
- The instructor/student relationship
- The challenges of being a student while in
prison/jail.



Best Practices

Teaching Practices For Optimal Outcomes

- Focus on skills for the workplace:
 - Hard skills
 - Soft skills
- Provide opportunities for:
 - Student autonomy
 - Student leadership



COVID-19 Adjustments

Questions We Had to Consider

- What can the institutions accommodate?
- How can we offer information and/or support to continue providing classes?